

REMARKS

Claims 3-12, 15-18, 23-32, 35-38 and 41-50 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 19-22, 33, 34, 39 and 40 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 3, 4, 5, 9, 23, 24, 25, 29, 41 and 45 are independent. Claims 3, 4, 23, 24 and 41-50 have been amended without narrowing their scope. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 5-12, 15, 17, 18, 25-32, 35, 37 and 38 have been allowed and that claims 3, 4, 23 and 24 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Since the latter claims have been so amended, they are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 41-50 were rejected under Sections 101 and 112, first paragraph, as being directed to a computer program. Claim 41-50 have been amended to be directed to a computer readable medium, a clearly statutory class. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

Claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 19-22, 33, 34, 39 and 40 were rejected in view of cited art. The cancellation of those claims renders their rejections moot.

Although not specifically addressed in the Office Action with regard to the prior art, amended independent claims 41 and 45 are believed patentable over the art of record for substantially the same reasons as corresponding allowed claims 5 and 9 respectively. The claims dependent on claims 41 and 45 are believed patentable for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all issues have been resolved and the case is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

By Joseph W. Ragusa
Joseph W. Ragusa
Registration No. 38,586
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-2714
(212) 277-6500
Attorney for Applicant